

CLAIMS

1. A method for conveying dishes in a tunnel dishwasher, **characterized** by using at least two conveyors (5a, 5b), the first of the conveyors (5a) moving forwards (F) at the same time as the second of the conveyors (5b) moves backwards (R), and vice versa; and by moving the
5 conveyors (5a, 5b) alternately forwards (F), whereby the dishes (11) to be washed move along with the forward-moving (F) conveyor (5a, 5b) relative to the washing zones (2, 3, 4).

2. A method according to claim 1, **characterized** by that the
10 dishes (11) to be washed being arranged in washing racks (10), in which they travel through the tunnel dishwasher (1), carried by the conveyors (5a, 5b).

3. A tunnel dishwasher comprising at least one washing zone (2, 3, 4) and a first conveyor (5a) arranged to move alternately forwards (F) and backwards (R), during which forward (F) motion the dishes (11) to be washed
15 are arranged to be moved along with the first conveyor (5a) relative to the washing zone (2, 3, 4), **characterized** in that the tunnel dishwasher (1) comprises, in addition to a first conveyor (5a), at least a second conveyor (5b) arranged to move in the opposite direction relative to the first conveyor (5a) in such a way that the first and the second conveyor (5a, 5b) are arranged to
20 convey the dishes (11) to be washed alternately forwards (F).

4. A tunnel dishwasher according to claim 3, **characterized** in that it comprises one power unit (12, 12a, 12b) arranged to move both the first and the second conveyor (5a, 5b) forwards and backwards (F, R).

5. A tunnel dishwasher according to claim 3 or 4,
25 **characterized** in that it comprises a lever (20) which is by its first end (22) turnably attached to the first conveyor (5a) and by its second end (23) turnably attached to the second conveyor (5b) and which is further attached by its middle point turnably to the dishwasher frame (25) in such a way that when the first conveyor (5a) is moving in one direction, the second conveyor (5b) is
30 forced to move in the opposite direction, and that a power unit (12, 12a, 12b) moving the conveyor (5a, 5b) reciprocatingly forwards and backwards (F, R) is connected to one of the conveyors (5a, 5b).

6. A tunnel dishwasher according to claim 3, **characterized** in that it comprises two power units (12, 12a, 12b), both of which are arranged
35 to move one conveyor (5a, 5b).

7. A tunnel dishwasher according to claim 3, **characterized** in that it comprises at least three conveyors (5a, 5b) arranged to move forwards and backwards at different phases relative to each other.

5 8. A tunnel dishwasher according to any one of claims 4 to 6, **characterized** in that the power unit (12, 12a, 12b) is an electric motor.

9. A tunnel dishwasher according to any one of claims 4 to 6, **characterized** in that the power unit (12, 12a, 12b) is a pneumatic actuator.

10 10. A tunnel dishwasher according to any one of claims 4 to 6, **characterized** in that the power unit (12, 12a, 12b) is a hydraulic actuator.

15 11. A tunnel dishwasher according to any one of claims 3 to 10, **characterized** in that the first conveyor (5a) is provided with turnable hooks (7) which move the dishes (11) to be washed forwards, and the second conveyor (5b) is provided with a surface the friction of which moves the dishes (11) to be washed forwards.